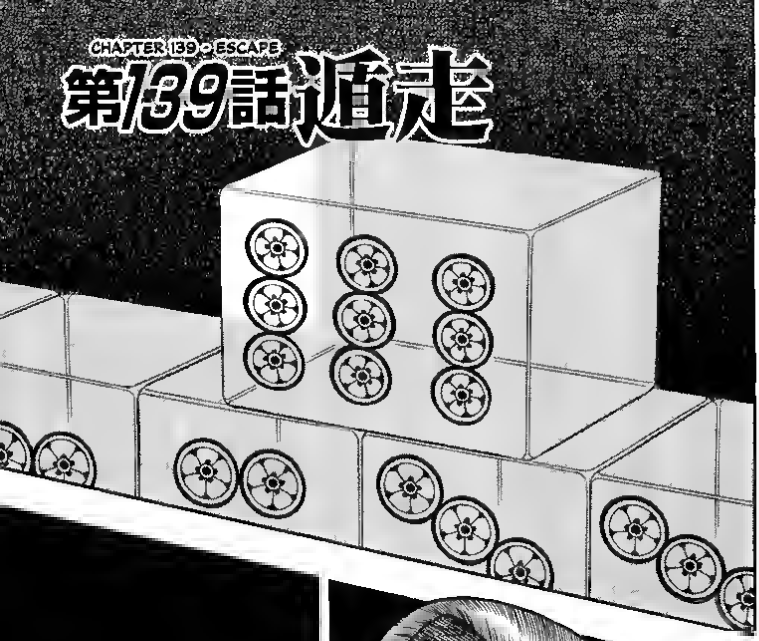
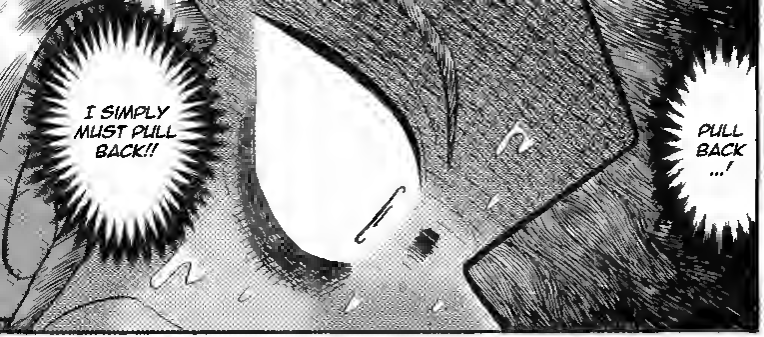
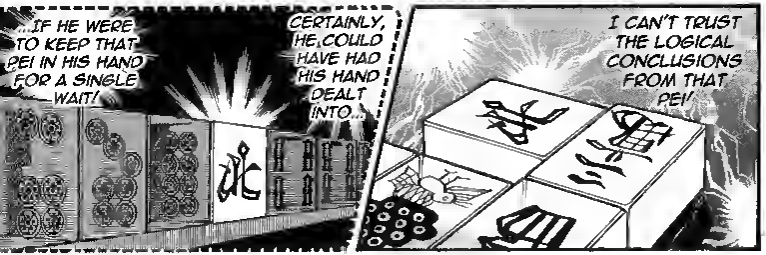
CHAPTER 139 • ESCAPE

第139話 逃走



THIS IS NOT SOME-THING I CAN DEAL!!

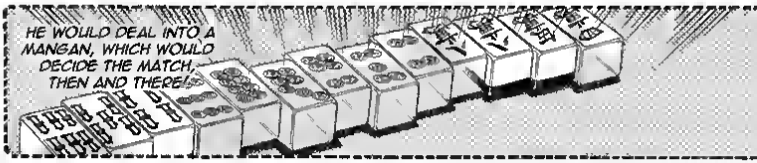

I SIMPLY MUST PULL BACK!!
PULL BACK ...!


..IF HE WERE TO KEEP THAT PEI IN HIS HAND FOR A SINGLE WAIT!
CERTAINLY, HE COULD HAVE HAD HIS HAND DEALT INTO..
I CAN'T TRUST THE LOGICAL CONCLUSIONS FROM THAT PEI!

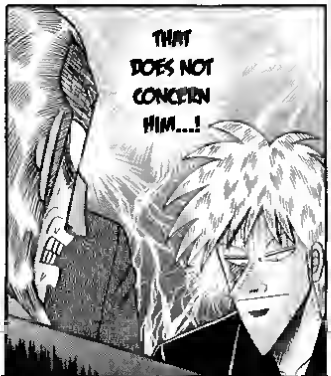
FOR THIS 9-PIN
..IF HE WERE TRULY TO BE AIMING
NO MATTER HOW UNLIKELY IT MIGHT BE
IT'S HARD TO IMAGINE HE WOULD GIVE THAT UP!
..FOR MY HAND TO BE ABLE TO USE IT!
..HE WOULD HAVE TO UNDERSTAND THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE ..

...THAT SOME OTHER TILE WOULD FLOW OUT, AND I COULD RIICHI!

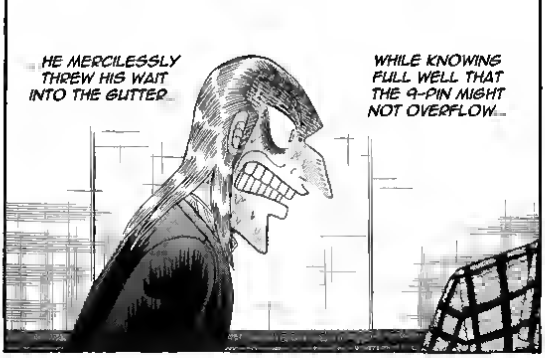
...HE WOULD BE FORCED TO DEAL INTO ME!
...IF HIS LUCK WAS BAD AND HE DREW MY WINNING TILE...
IF THAT WERE TO HAPPEN..

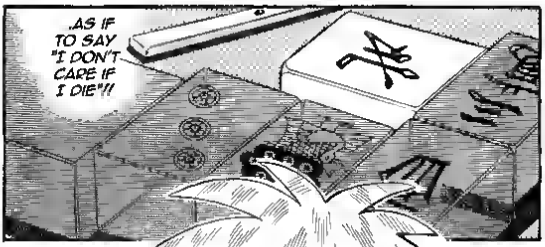

HE WOULD DEAL INTO A MANGAN, WHICH WOULD DECIDE THE MATCH, THEN AND THERE!

GETTING A DIRECT HIT FROM ME SHOULD NOT HAVE MATTERED!
SO THAT'S WHY
HE WOULD DIE A DOG'S DEATH, THEN AND THERE!

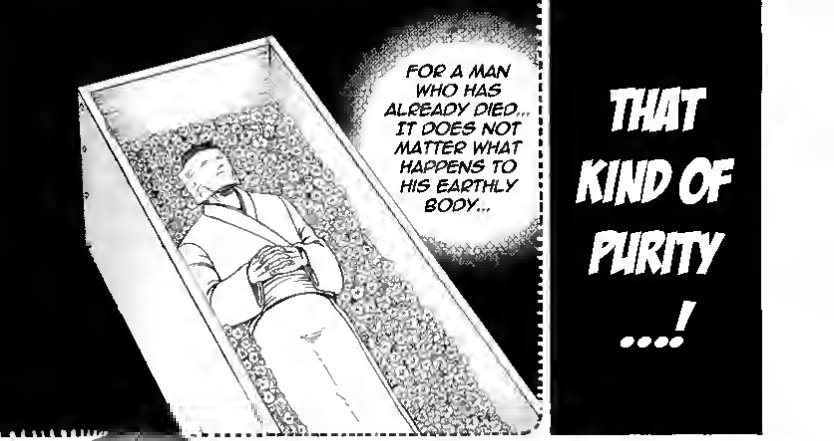


HE IS WILLING ...!

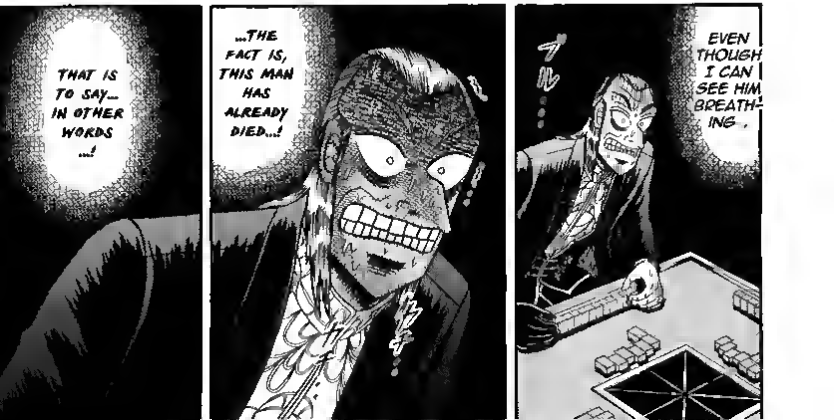




HE IS WILLING TO DIE A DOG'S DEATH !! ....

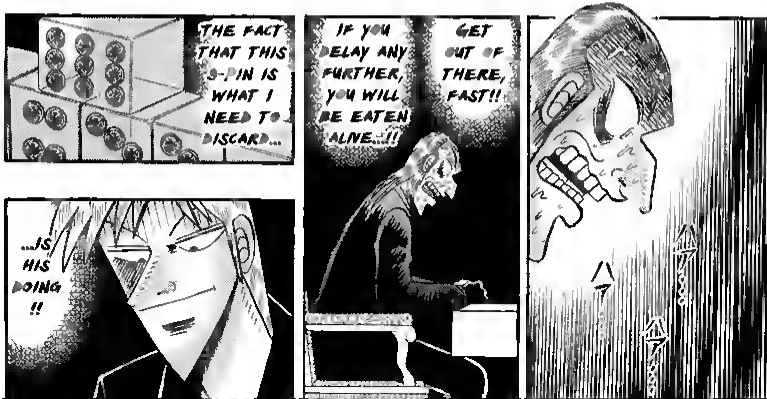

FOR A MAN WHO HAS ALREADY DIED... IT DOES NOT MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO HIS EARTHLY BODY...
THAT KIND OF PURITY ...!

SO HE CAN PUT IT ON THE LINE!!


THAT IS TO SAY... IN OTHER WORDS ...!
...THE FACT IS, THIS MAN HAS ALREADY DIED...!
EVEN THOUGH I CAN SEE HIM BREATHING.

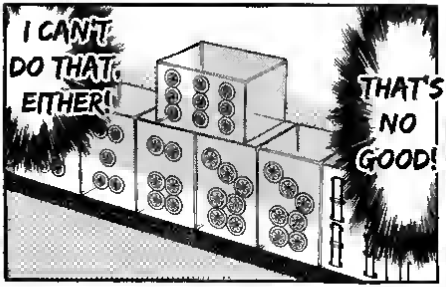
A GHOUL POSSESSING A HUMAN BODY...
HE IS A PHANTOM...!
WHO COULD NOT CARE LESS FOR IT'S EARTHLY PRESENCE!
HE... IS NOT HUMAN ...!

RUN...!


THE FACT THAT THIS S-PIN IS WHAT I NEED TO DISCARD...
IF YOU DELAY ANY FURTHER, YOU WILL BE EATEN ALIVE...!!
GET OUT OF THERE, FAST!!
...IS HIS DOING !!

I MUST PICK SOME-THING ELSE!
I CAN'T EVEN ALLOW MYSELF TO CONSIDER PLAYING THIS 9-PIN ...!
... WHEN THE FLOW IS WITH HIM IS NO GOOD!!
TRYING TO GO UP AGAINST HIS SORCERY...
IT'S BECAUSE OF HIS FLOW!
SO, THAT IN MIND...
I'LL STILL HAVE KEPT MYSELF IN TENPAI...
IF I PICK ONE OF THOSE...
SHOULD I DEAL THE 4- OR 7-PIN?
GRRRR GHHH!!
KGH ...!
WAITING ON A CLOSED

NO ...!

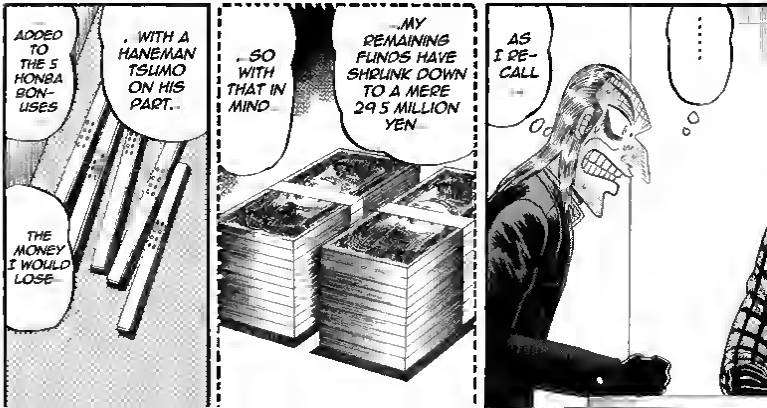

I CAN'T DO THAT, EITHER!
THAT'S NO GOOD!

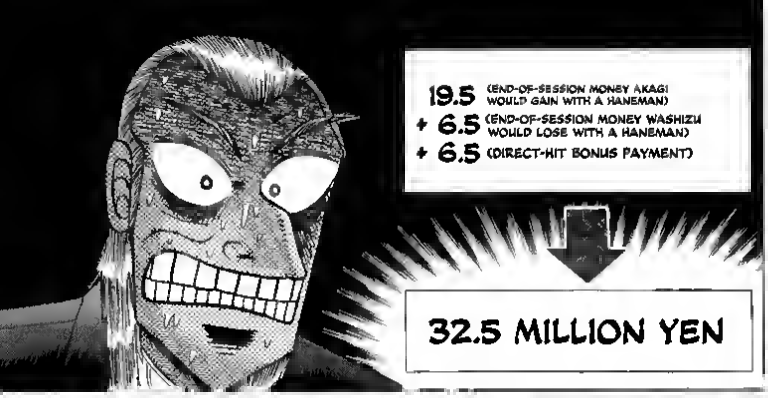
...
THAT'S NOT IT!
THAT'S WRONG ...

RIGHT NOW...

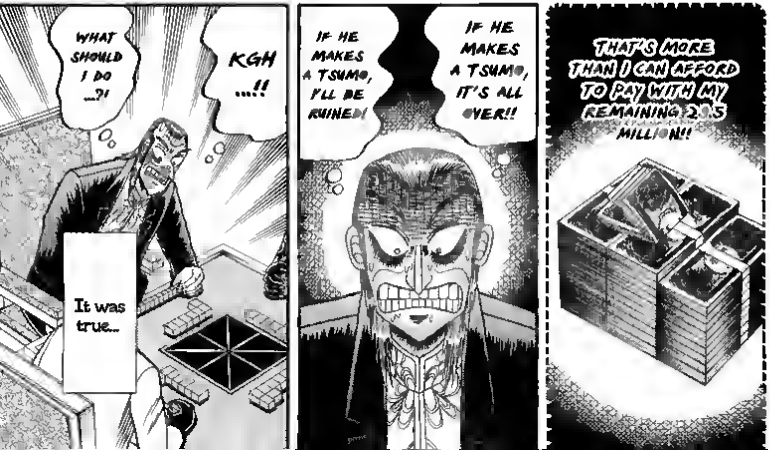
THIS PHANTOM'S MADNESS...
...THIS MOMENT IN TIME BELONGS TO HIM...!
I HAVE BEEN FALLING BEHIND...!
...HAS SIEZED CONTROL OVER THIS ROUND...!
AND WHEN HE DRAWS IT...
...IT WILL BE HE WHO WILL COMPLETE HIS HAND, FIRST!!
EVEN IF I REACH TENPAI MOMENTARILY...

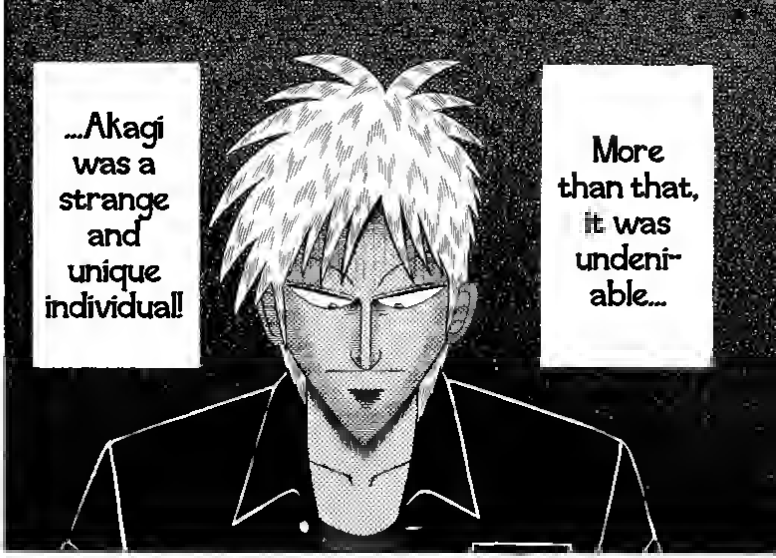
...IT WILL BE RIICHI, TSUMO, TON, II PEI KOU...!
...IT WOULD GO UP TO HANE-MAN!
AND SINCE HE SOMEHOW ALWAYS PULLS IN URA-DORA...


ADDED TO THE 5 HONBA BON-USES
. WITH A HANEMAN TSUMO ON HIS PART..
THE MONEY I WOULD LOSE...
..SO WITH THAT IN MIND...
...MY REMAINING FUNDS HAVE SHRUNK DOWN TO A MERE 29 5 MILLION YEN...
AS I RE-CALL...
.....

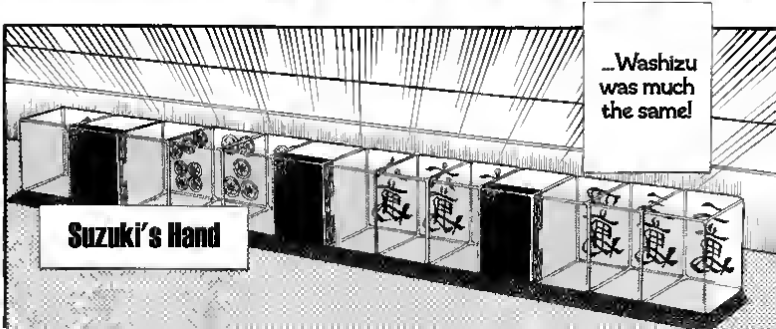

19.5 (END-OF-SESSION MONEY AKAGI WOULD GAIN WITH A HANEMAN)
+ 6.5 (END-OF-SESSION MONEY WASHIZU WOULD LOSE WITH A HANEMAN)
+ 6.5 (DIRECT-HIT BONUS PAYMENT)
32.5 MILLION YEN

IF HE DRAWS A HANEMAN, IT WILL ALL BE OVER!!
IT'S NO USE....!
GR GH ...!


WHAT SHOULD I DO ...?!
KGH ...!!
It was true...
IF HE MAKES A TSUMO, I'LL BE RUINED!
IF HE MAKES A TSUMO, IT'S ALL OVER!!
THAT'S MORE THAN I CAN AFFORD TO PAY WITH MY REMAINING 2.5 MILLION!!


...Akagi was a strange and unique individual!
More than that, it was undeniable...

But...
GGGG-HHHH ...!!
GRGH ...!


...Washizu was much the same!
Suzuki's Hand

...another strange, unique individual!
...was a man who would not easily lose to Akagi...
.....
...For Washizu...
In that same vein, he was different than he people Akagi had defeated in the past...
And so...
...HE DISCOVERED A HERETICAL PATHWAY TO MAINTAIN WHAT WAS LEFT OF HIS LIFE!
HAH ...!!
Suzuki's Hand
From this sensation of his...
...in this, his eleventh hour, the point it could all rest upon...

OH-
HOO
OOO
AHH
!!!
...
Rather, this discovery of his...
Well, no...
CHI!
...
...This situation in and of itself...

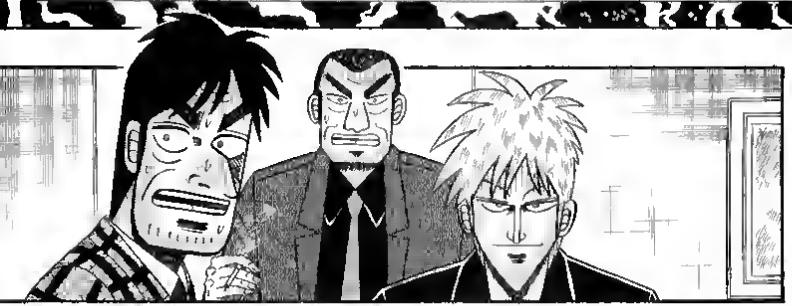
PON!
...did not come directly from his senses!
CHI!
It was more than that...
GRWH ...!!
HAH ...!

PON!
...This action to go back and forth between the two hands calling pon and chi...
...When the time had come to do or die...
In his final moments –

... Distanced him from the abilities of normal men!
This strategy of his...
His decision to forcibly ...
Yes...

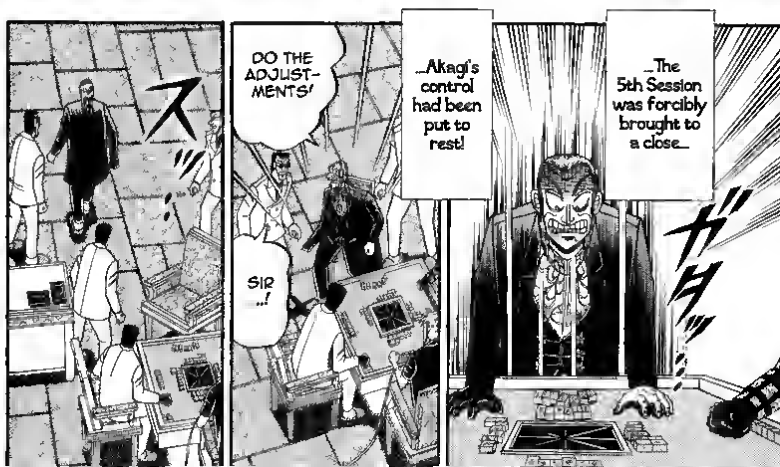
An emer-gency evacua-tion!
...Deal into Suzuki's hand!
With this clever scheme...
He slipped his way out of Akagi's dominion!
...He had su-pressed it!
That is...

...HIS 6- AND 9-PIN WAIT!
Akagi's Hand

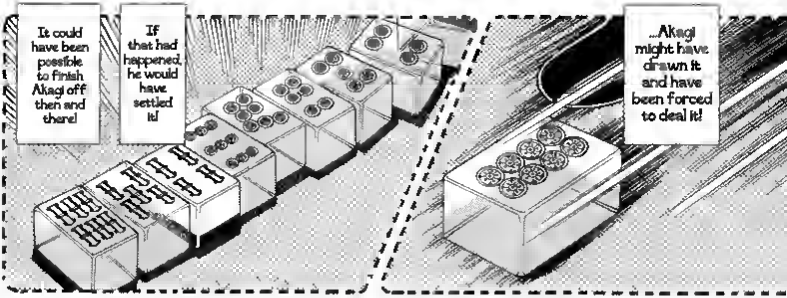


...Could never be known for certain!
...was the best move at the time or not...
...Whether this evacuation...
Of course...
ざわ...
ざわ...ざわ...

In any event...
2500 POINTS...!


DO THE ADJUSTMENTS!
SIR...!
...Akagi's control had been put to rest!
...The 5th Session was forcibly brought to a close...

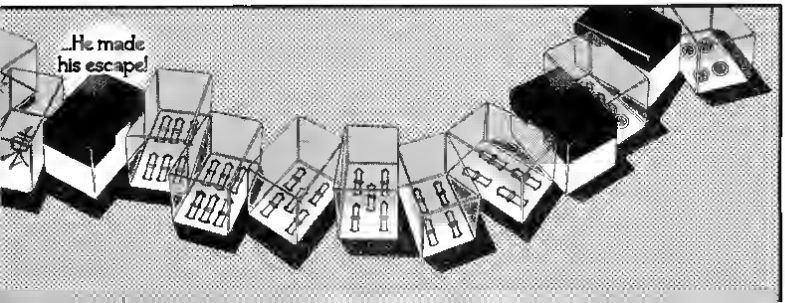
Then, through a stroke of luck...
If Washizu were to have accepted that closed 8-pin wart...
No amount of thinking could find out for certain how things would have turned out!

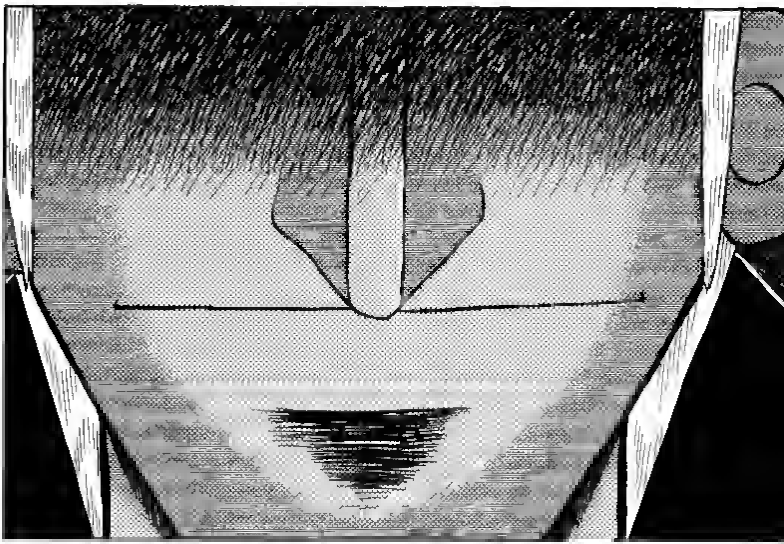

It could have been possible to finish Akagi off then and there!
If that had happened, he would have settled it!
...Akagi might have drawn it and have been forced to deal it!

...A fear of the unknown.
...He had felt a sensation...
...From deep within the core of his soul...
...For Washizu...
However...

AND SO, HE FLED!

...Without looking back...
Through and through...


...He made his escape!



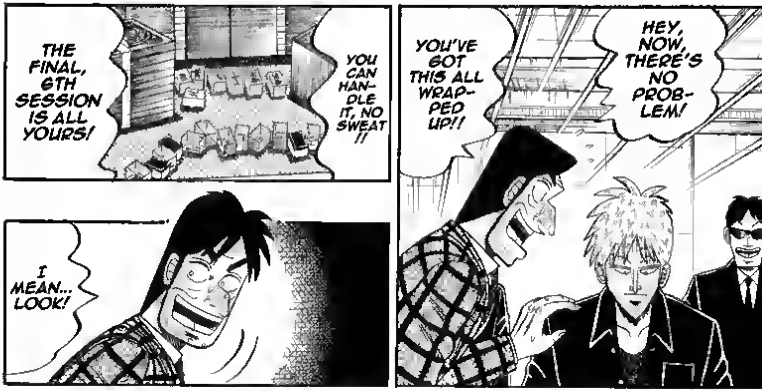
AND AS FOR AKAGI...

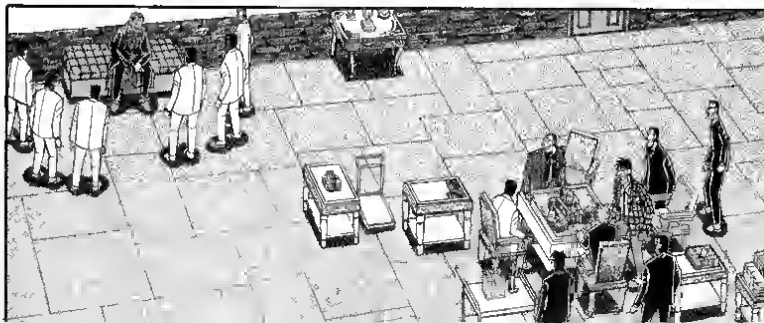
...HE HAD LET HIS BIGGEST CATCH ESCAPE FROM HIS NET!

As for Akagi...
ざわ…
ざわ…
KAH ...!
IT CAN'T BE HELPED... NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I DO THE CALCULATIONS, THIS IS WHAT I GET.
However...
ALL OF THIS ...?!
ざわ…
...he had let his biggest catch escape from his net!
ドド…
ゴロ…
ドド…
...Be that as it may...

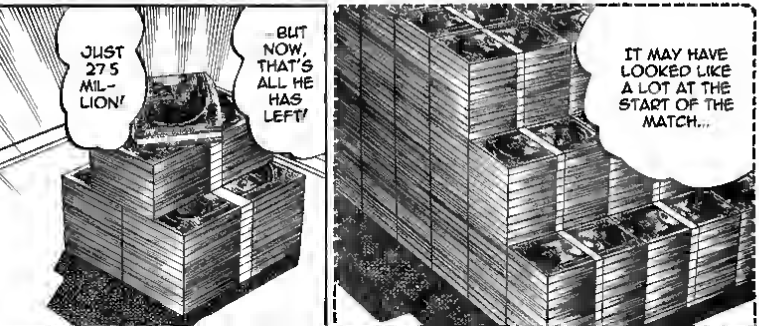
...Akagi had conned him out of a tremend-ous sum of money!
WOO OOO OWW WWW W!!
YOU REALLY DID IT!!
THIS IS AMAZ-ING!!
ALL TO-GETH-ER, IT'S... 206 MIL-LION !!
AMAZ-ING!! AMAZ-ING!!
HOLY SHIT!!
I'M SO HAPPY I CAN HARDLY BREATHE!! SOMETHING'S JUST COME OVER ME!!
I CAN'T HOLD MYSELF BACK !!
第140話 力点
CHAPTER 140 - IMPORTANCE

THE 5TH SESSION WENT WELL FOR US, OVERALL ...
AND THAT'S GOOD, BUT...
WELL...
YOU'RE AN HONEST-TO-GOD GENIUS!
AKAGI...!! YOU'RE A GENIUS!!

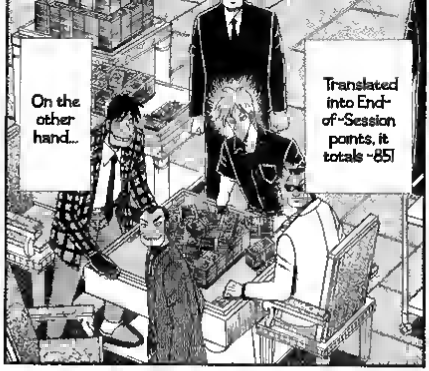

THE FINAL, 6TH SESSION IS ALL YOURS!
YOU CAN HANDLE IT, NO SWEAT!!
I MEAN... LOOK!
YOU'VE GOT THIS ALL WRAPPED UP!!
HEY, NOW, THERE'S NO PROBLEM!



AND EVEN WITH THAT 100 MIL HE PULLED OUT, EARLIER...
...WE NEARLY HAVE ALL 600 MIL!
ALL 500 MIL!
AFTER ALL, ALL HIS INITIAL FUNDS HAVE DISAPPEARED...
VERY UNDERSTANDABLE...
HE LOOKS ABSOLUTELY DUMBFOUNDED!
HAH-HAH....


JUST 275 MILLION!
...BUT NOW, THAT'S ALL HE HAS LEFT!
IT MAY HAVE LOOKED LIKE A LOT AT THE START OF THE MATCH...

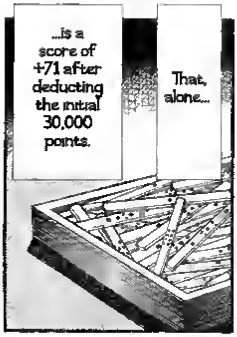
ざわ…
ざわ…
ざわ…
ざわ…
HE'S HANGING ON THE EDGE OF RUIN!
SO IT'S ONLY NATURAL …
THAT HE'S LOOKING SO DOWN-HEARTED!
…with negative 24700 points at the end of the session!
Washizu was left…
…He had wrenched a full 206 Million Yen from Washizu!
…he was able to wound Washizu far worse than he already was
…Thanks to Akagi's decision to continue adding Honba…
While it had seemed ridiculous at first…
The 5th Session.
And as such, in just this 5th Session alone…
That alone is already -55 by the final point values.
After subtracting the initial 30000 points from that…
But even then…
-30000
-24700
-54700



...for the 4th-place Uma Penalty

...30,000 more points had to be deducted from that score...

-54700 (Deducted Point Total)
-30000 (4th-Place Uma Penalty)
-84700



...is 206 Points.

121 (Akagi's Final Score)
+ 85 (Washizu's Final Score)
206

With this, the difference -

...And it totals an end-of-session score of +121.

Add to this the 1st-place Uma Bonus of +30 and the Oka Bonus of +20...

+71 (Deducted Point Total)
+30 (1st-Place Uma Bonus)
+20 (Oka Bonus)
+121 (Final Score)

Trans-slating them into actual money...

206

And with those 206 points —

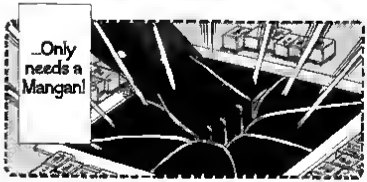
●This 570 Million in 1965 would equate to about 5.7 Billion in modern times.

It was a gleaming spectacle unlike anything else in this world!
...And both were nearly overloaded!
Two tables had been prepared for the vast sums of cash...
...It was only natural!
And in front of such a spectacle...
Only natural for Yasuoka and the others to be unable to hide their delight!

However...
They could not hold themselves back!
In the midst of the ruckus and celebration...
For he knew...!
He was immobile, having to reason to be excited!
...Only Akagi was unable to join in.
THAT KIND OF THING
He knew that, no matter how high his winnings piled up...
he knew for a fact, without a sliver of doubt!

...IS AS GOOD AS GARBAGE.
I'D LIKE TO THINK THAT IT MAKES ME SAFE.
BUT THE FACT IS...
IT COULD BE OVER-TURNED IN A SECOND.
ALL OF THAT MONEY COULD EASILY RUSH BACK HIS WAY.
FOR NOW, IT'S ALL JUST AN ILLU-SION.

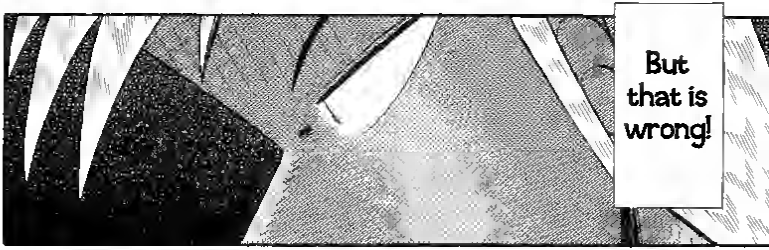
...However, in the 6th Session, Washizu...
It should not need to be said...

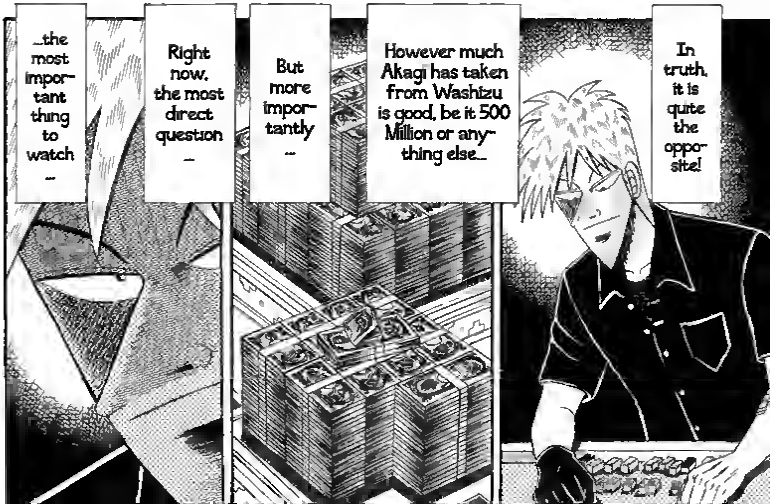

...Only needs a Mangan!

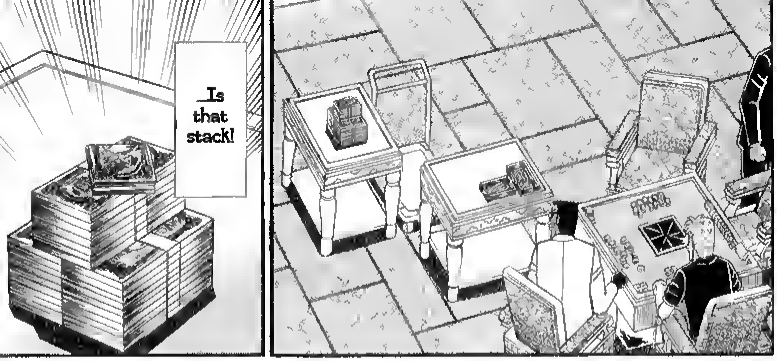
Yes...
IF I LOSE MY LIFE
IT WON'T MATTER HOW MUCH MONEY I HAVE.

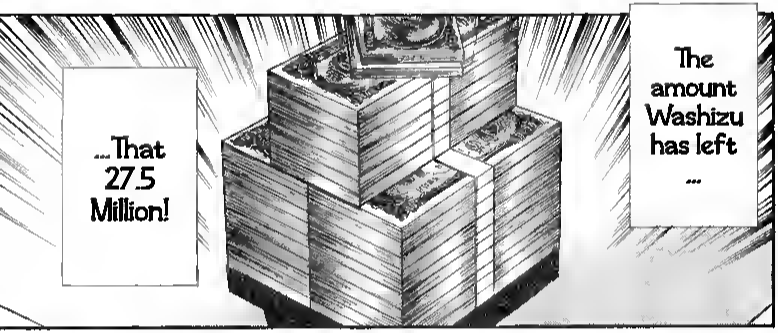
If he manages to Tsumo with a Mangan hand...
...then Akagi would be annihilated ...

...depending on the situation...
Although...
...Would go back to Washizu!
...and every last bill of that money...
Akagi is standing on thin ice!
That much is clear.
...It is still very dangerous!
But regardless...
...Akagi might not die fro just a Mangan Tsumo...
...putting their dignity and seriousness aside momentarily...
But they continue to celebrate...
...intoxicated by the money before their eyes!
...deep within their hearts.
They are aware that they could lose it all...
...but that is only on the surface.
Yasuoka and Ohgi are delighted at the cash they see...


But that is wrong!

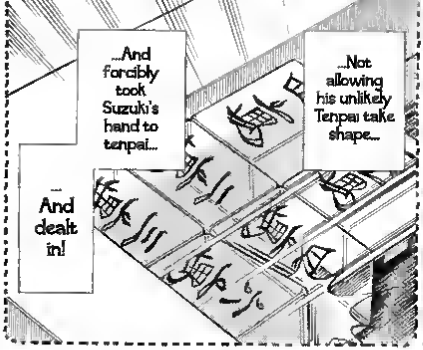

In truth, it is quite the oppo-site!
However much Akagi has taken from Washizu is good, be it 500 Million or any-thing else...
But more impor-tantly ...
Right now, the most direct question ...
...the most impor-tant thing to watch ...

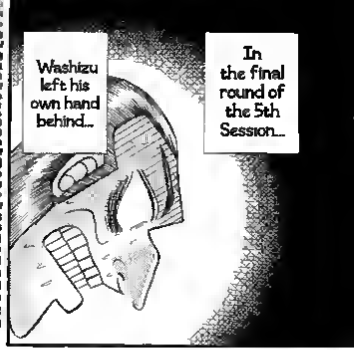

Is that stack!


...That 27.5 Million!
The amount Washizu has left ...

That is what Akagi thought at that moment!
...That aspect is far more important!

The amount left in that stack...


...And forcibly took Suzuki's hand to tenpai...
...Not allowing his unlikely Tenpai take shape...
... And dealt in!


Washizu left his own hand behind...
In the final round of the 5th Session...

But Akagi sensed it...
It was not the best way that the game could have ended for him...
Entering the 6th Session...

The 5th Session was forcibly ended!
He brought it to a close!

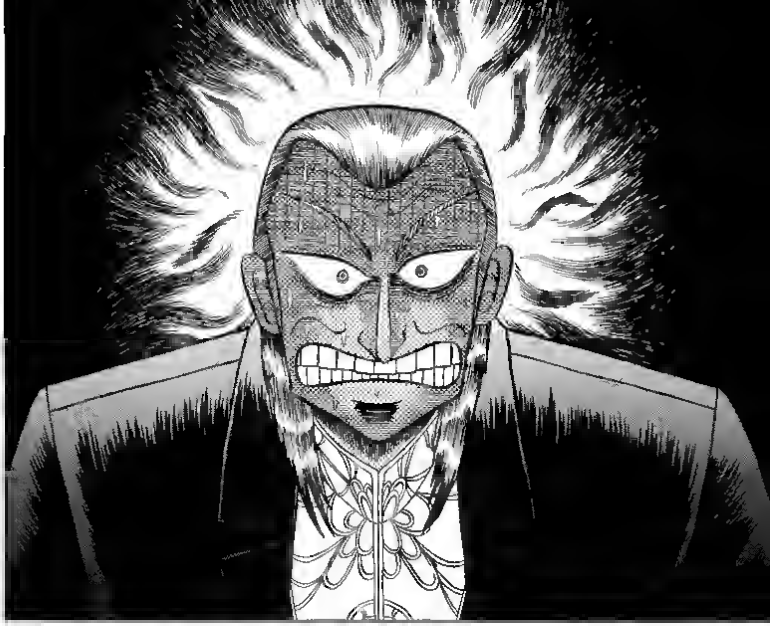
...it would be an uphill battle...
In other words ...
...his future would hold many surprises and difficulties!

... Washizu had been reborn!

...if it came to pass, it would not be like gradually being burnt in a pot of boiling water...
Thinking about it, this premonition of Akagi's...
To put it more aptly...
However...
The 6th Session could end suddenly, at any time!
...Would be revealed, and pointed in Akagi's direction!
...it would be as if a gun that had been concealed prior to this point...
Good fortune begetting more good fortune...
Through victory after victory...
This man, seeming divinely privileged in all he did...
Who, without ever leaving Japan, had amassed money beyond most peoples' capabilities...
For this was Washizu Iwao...

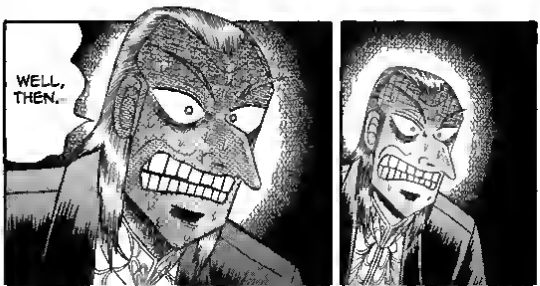
Indeed, thinking that he would simply roll over and die when his time came...
...would seem to be utterly ludicrous!
Yes... to go into a 6th straight match with this man...
...Is who Akagi would be facing in the 6th Session!
...Would be a mis-judgement unlike anything else!
...would be sure to do something incredible!
...in such a desperate, cornered position...
For this man...
...From someone born with prosperity and good luck above that of anyone else!
As is to expect...
Such a man...

For that reason...
That obstacle would need to be overcome!
Would be challenging to strike down with his divine blessings!
...would be difficult to overcome in his final battle!
...Akagi had tried to eliminate him!
...could reach its most dangerous level...
Before Washizu's luck...
...He had tried to bring the match to a close in the 5th Session alone!
Without going to the 6th Session...
...He had tried to kill him off, for good!
That is...



He brought the game to the 6th Session by force!
...Washizu prevented him from making that plan into a reality!
Right before he was able to do so...

But....


WELL, THEN.

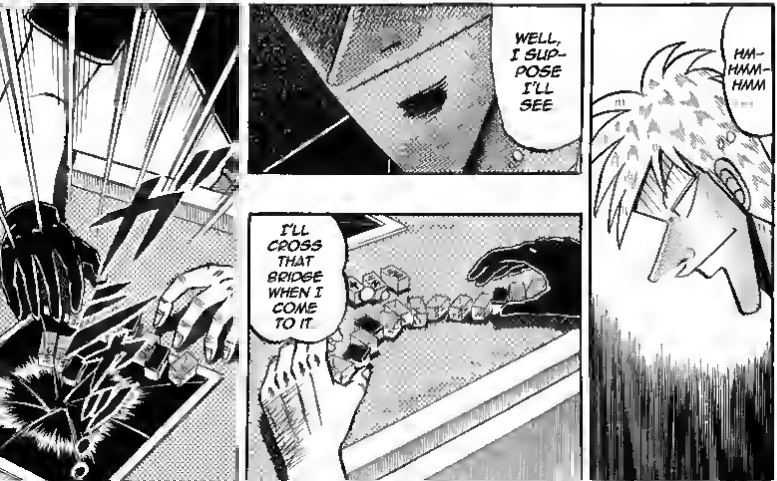
WAR HAS BEEN DECLA-RED!
...LET'S GET TO IT.

Smooth sailing...!
ALL RIGHT !!
OH-HO OO AH !!

The murky, dark future...
The pitch-black mystery of the tiger's den.
...only Akagi, who could feel it coming!
There was only one...
...this 6th Hanchan Session, to be a throw-away match!
The vast majority of people would consider this final match...

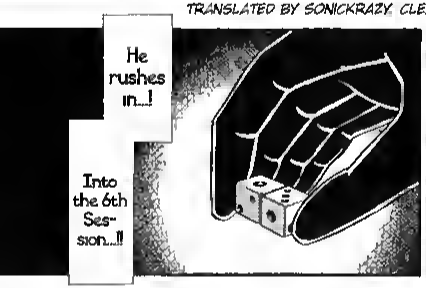
...A GRAVE-YARD OF HUMAN CORPSES...!
THE PLACE WHERE ANY CHANCE OF SURVIVAL IS SLIM...
THE PLACE WHERE HE WOULD BE FACE-TO-FACE...

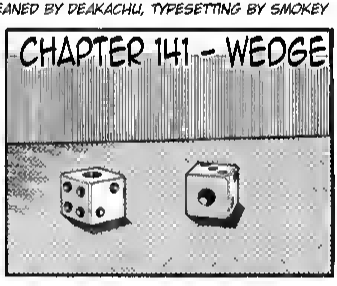
...WITH THE FORETOLD MAN-EATING BEAST...!

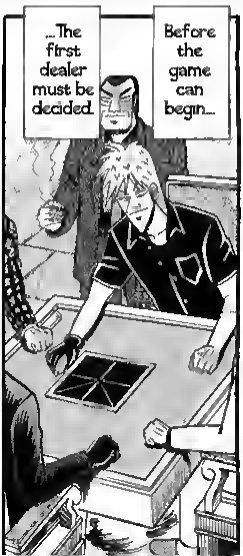

WELL, I SUP-POSE I'LL SEE
HM-HMM-HMM
I'LL CROSS THAT BRIDGE WHEN I COME TO IT.

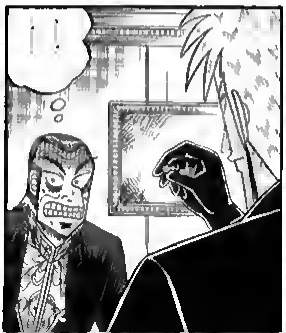
ALL I'VE GOT LEFT TO LOSE, NOW... IS MY LIFE!
HE RUSHES IN...!
INTO THE 6TH SESSION ...!!

TRANSLATED BY SONICKRAZY. CLEANED BY DEAKACHU. TYPESETTING BY SMOKEY









HRRRRRGGHHHH!!!

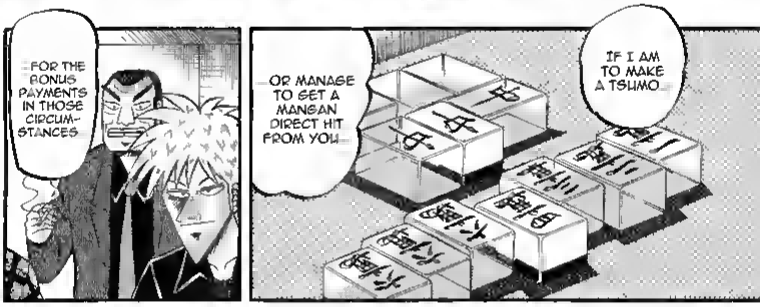
WAIT!

HUH...?

……
……
WH...
……
THINKING ABOUT IT...
……
IT'S JUST...
WHAT IS IT...?

WHA...?
SOME-THING A BIT UNCER-TAIN...!
THERE'S SOMETHING WE HAVEN'T TOUCHED UPON YET...
ABOUT ONE THING...!
I'D JUST LIKE TO MAKE ABSO-LUTE SURE
BEFORE YOU ROLL THE DICE...
SOME-THING UNCER-TAIN?
THE BLOOD YOU'VE ALREADY LOST IS NOT THE PROBLEM!
THERE IS NO PROB-LEM WITH WHAT WE'VE DONE SO FAR...
OF YOUR BLOOD BEING EXTRA-CTED!
IT HAS TO DO WITH THE MATTER...
?
THE PROB-LEM IS...

IN THIS COMING 6TH SESSION...
THAT IS...
WHEN IT COMES TIME TO TAKE SOME MORE!

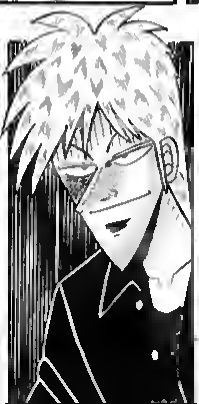

FOR THE BONUS PAYMENTS IN THOSE CIRCUMSTANCES
OR MANAGE TO GET A MANGAN DIRECT HIT FROM YOU...
IF I AM TO MAKE A TSUMO...

BUT I WILL NOT BUDGE ON THIS ISSUE!
I REALIZE THAT I NEVER CLARIFIED THIS BEFORE...
YOU MUST PAY ME WITH YOUR BLOOD!
I ABSOLUTELY WILL NOT ACCEPT MONEY!
THAT'S FINE, YES? NO OBJECTIONS?!
...

...AND YOU'VE BEEN ACTING AS THOUGH IT WAS THAT WAY TO BEGIN WITH, BUT...
WE NEVER REALLY CLARIFIED IT ONE WAY OR ANOTHER...

JUST THINK ABOUT IT, AKAGI!
HM-HMM-HMM...

DON'T WORRY...!



WASH-IZU...
...IN ANY EVENT, IT'S IMPORTANT THAT WE MAKE SURE...

OF COURSE, I NEVER PLANNED TO USE THAT ARGUMENT!
IF YOU CAN TAKE THE REST, IT'S YOUR WIN!

...I HAD ASSUMED THAT IT WOULD BE THAT WAY...!
FROM THE START

ごわ
JUST 500 CCS STAND IN YOUR WAY!

...I NEVER PLANNED TO PULL THAT ONE ON YOU!
EVEN IF IT HAPPENED THAT I WOULD DIE WITH A BIT MORE BLOOD

YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT!
SO COME ON, KILL ME IF YOU CAN!

BUT ANYWAY.
ざわ..

SO...
ナデ
HMM-HMM-HMM...
YOU WON'T BE ABLE TO TAKE THOSE 500 CCS, SO IT DOESN'T MATTER

LET'S GO.
GET BACK TO IT.

.....
HUH...?
JUST ONE MORE THING!

ONE MORE THING!!

IN THIS 8TH SES-SION
...THAT I'D LIKE TO CLEAR UP!
I HAVE ONE MORE THING

YOU WON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT YOUR PLACEMENT!
THE FACT IS...

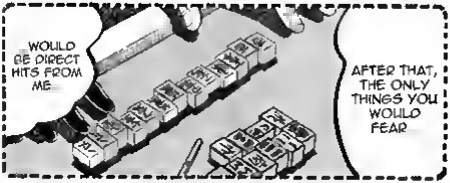
EVEN IF YOU DO WIND UP LOSING TO ME...
EVEN IN THAT EVENT...
FOR THIS 8TH SES-SION...
...IT WON'T MATTER IF I COME OUT ON TOP BY 50 OR 100 POINTS, ANY MORE!

HUH...?
SINCE YOU HAVE A LOT OF MONEY LEFT AS A SAFETY NET...

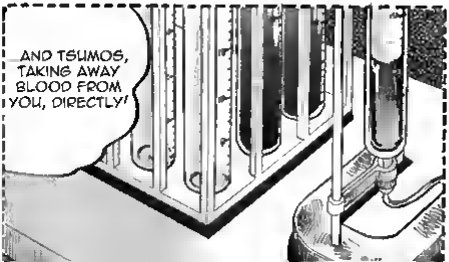
NO MATTER WHAT THE SITUATION MAY BE...
SO WITH THAT IN MIND

YOU'LL KEEP YOUR LIFE!
WITH ALL THE MONEY YOU HAVE...

THAT'S THE KIND OF GAME IT WILL BECOME!
...THE NATURAL MOVE WILL BE TO RUN AWAY...


WOULD BE DIRECT HITS FROM ME...
AFTER THAT, THE ONLY THINGS YOU WOULD FEAR

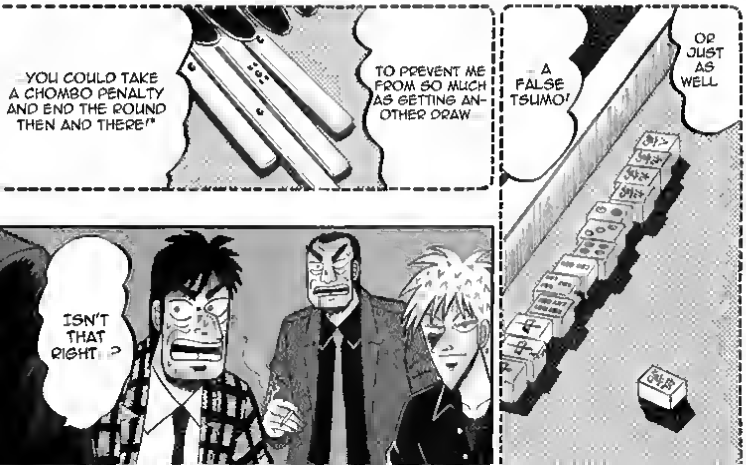
IT WOULD BE HOPE-LESS FOR ME, THEN!
WHAA...?


AND TSUMOS, TAKING AWAY BLOOD FROM YOU, DIRECTLY!

THOSE WOULD BE MY ONLY WAY OUT!
AS LONG AS YOU AVOIDED THOSE
FOR THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE HANCHAN
YOU WOULD BE ABLE TO WIN!
THOUGH VERY CHEAP
YOU WOULD ACHIEVE VICTORY!
HMPH!
YEAH, SO WHAT?!
AREN'T YOU OUR OPPONENT?!
THAT'S ONLY NATURAL!!
SINCE WE'VE COME THIS FAR NATURALLY WE'D TAKE A DEFENSIVE STRATEGY!!
THAT'S JUST PART OF THE GAME!! YOU CAN'T OBJECT TO THAT!!
YES OF COURSE I KNOW THAT!
I KNOW THAT VERY WELL!
IF IT'S JUST THE NORMAL DEFENSIVE STRATEGY YOU USE
THEN NATURALLY I HAVE NOTHING TO COMPLAIN ABOUT!
HOWEVER

IF YOU MOVE AWAY FROM THAT, IT'S ALTO-GETHER DIFFERENT!
EVEN IF I COME CLOSE TO A DIRECT HIT OR A TSUMO...
IN THIS COMING 6TH SES-SION...
THAT IS...
WHA...?
...THAT I HAVE REACHED TENPAI...
...IF YOU SEE THAT I AM THERE...
EVEN IF I REACH TENPAI...
EVEN IF MY HAND PRO-GRESSES IN JUST THE RIGHT WAY...
IT WOULD BE STUPIDLY EASY FOR YOU TO SHUT IT DOWN!

<TN: A CHOMBO PENALTY IS WHERE A PLAYER WHO HAS MADE A CRITICAL MISTAKE OR IS CAUGHT CHEATING MUST PAY THE OTHER PLAYERS 8000 POINTS TOTAL. THE ROUND ENDS AT THAT POINT TO AVOID A SITUATION WHERE THE PLAYER WHO MADE THE ERROR WOULD BE AT AN EVEN GREATER DISADVANTAGE.>


...YOU COULD TAKE A CHOMBO PENALTY AND END THE ROUND THEN AND THERE!"
TO PREVENT ME FROM SO MUCH AS GETTING AN-OTHER DRAW
...A FALSE TSUMO!
OR JUST AS WELL
ISN'T THAT RIGHT...?

GR-
GH...!!
WHA-
AA...?!
ごわ…
YOU JUST NEVER KNOW!
SINCE IT'S COME TO SUCH AN INTENSE SITUATION—
KRGH...!!
YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT PEOPLE WILL DO UNTIL THEY DO IT!
—OR YOU WILL GET NONE OF IT!
WILL NOW EITHER ALL BE YOURS—
6 Billion Yen in Modern Times
AFTER ALL, THAT GOO MIL-LION
YOU NEVER KNOW...
NOW, NOW, NOW...
WE WOULDN'T DO SOME-THING LIKE THAT!!
YOU IDIOT!!
YO...

WHY, IT'S SIMPLE!
HUHH-HH?!
WELL THEN, WHAT DO YOU THINK WE SHOULD DO ABOUT IT?!
WHAT THE HELL DOES THAT MEAN?!
YOU... YOU NEVER KNOW?!

IF THERE IS ANY OF THAT KIND OF ROTTEN BEHAVIOR TAKING PLACE...
IT'S EASY TO DEAL WITH...!
HUH...?

THAT IS...
IN ORDER TO PUT THAT IDEA RIGHT OUT OF YOUR MINDS...
IN A CASE WHERE THERE IS A FALSE RON OR FALSE TSUMO MADE
IN OTHER WORDS...
IF YOU GO THROUGH WITH THAT...
THAT INSULTING ACTION THAT WOULD MAKE A MOCKERY OF THIS GAME

IN OTHER WORDS
IF A FALSE RON OR FALSE TSUMO IS MADE
WHA...?!
...THEN WE WILL HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO CALL THE GAME OFF!

...EVERYTHING WE'VE DONE WILL NO LONGER COUNT!
...THEN THE ENTIRE BATTLE TO NOW...

THE 1ST THROUGH 5TH SESSIONS WILL NO LONGER COUNT!
BACK TO BEFORE THIS MATCH BEGAN...
WE WILL GO RIGHT BACK!
WHA...?!

WHY, IT'S ONLY LAW ENFORCEMENT, DETECTIVE!

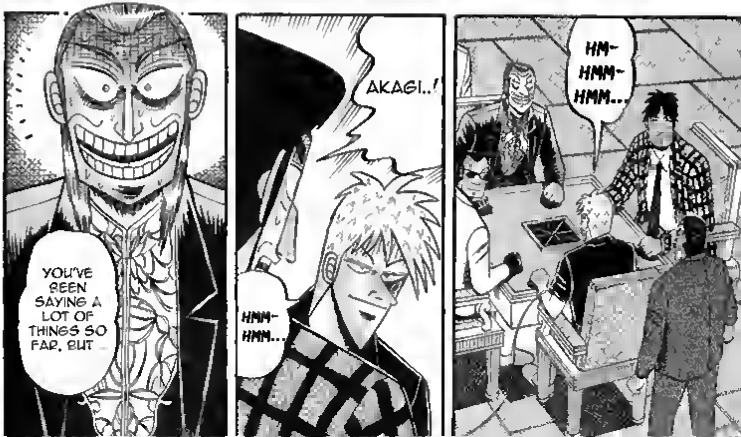
KHEH-HEH-HEH...
WHAT?!

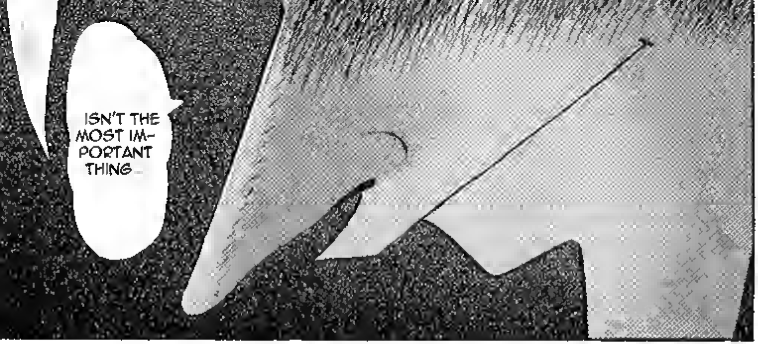
TO STOP SOMETHING SO HEINOUS AS THIS...!

...THAT IT IS ONLY NATURAL TO GIVE A HARSH, DRASTIC CONSEQUENCE-
I'M SURE THAT YOU CAN UNDERSTAND
ざわ...
ざわ...

DON'T YOU AGREE...?

THAT ISN'T THE PROBLEM, HERE!!
IF I AGREE, YOU'LL BE ABLE TO FRAME US, EASILY!!!
IT'S NOT ABOUT WHETHER I'LL AGREE!!
YOU IDIOT!!
YOU...
...WITH A TILE SOMEWHERE ELSE, BE IT FROM THE POND OR ANOTHER HAND!
YOU CAN JUST MAKE THE ARGUMENT THAT WE SWITCHED THE WINNING TILE....
...OR THE FALSE TSUMO...
WITH THE FALSE RON...
...AFTER ONE OF US KNOCKS DOWN HIS TILES...
WASHIZU!
ISN'T THAT RIGHT!?
WE'LL BE ARGUING OVER NOTHING!!
AND AFTER THAT, WE'LL NEVER BE ABLE TO CONTINUE!


YOU'VE BEEN SAYING A LOT OF THINGS SO FAR, BUT...
HMM-HMM...
AKAGI..!
HM-HMM-HMM...


ISN'T THE MOST IMPORTANT THING...

YOU WIND UP OUTRANKING ME ONE WAY OR ANOTHER...
IN THIS FINAL HANCHAN SESSION...

IF BY CHANCE...
THE ISSUE OF PAYMENT...?

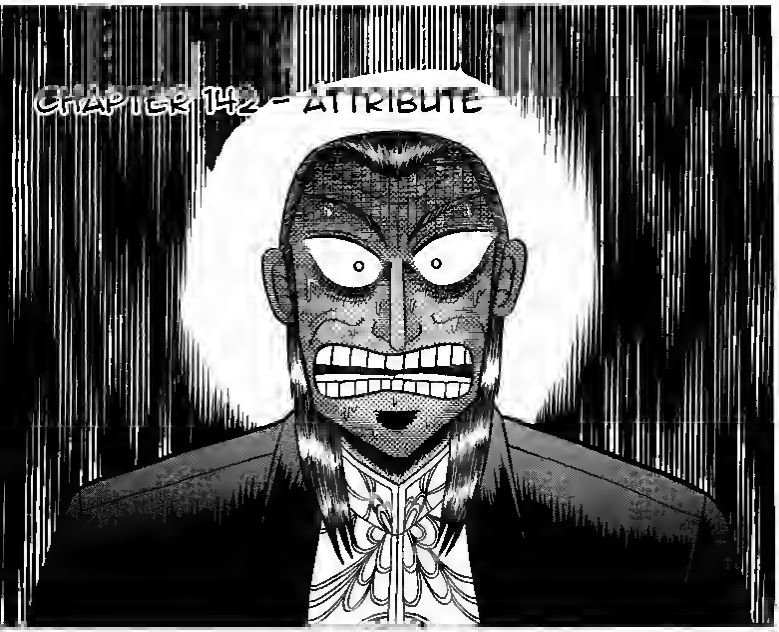
...YOU WANT BLOOD.

YOU DON'T WANT MONEY...
IN THAT ADJUSTMENT...

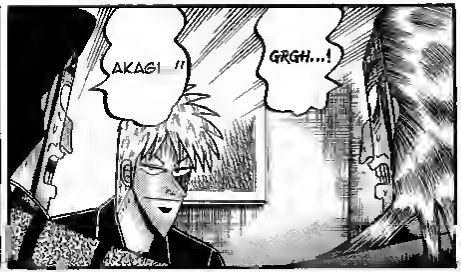
THAT'S WHAT YOU WERE AIMING FOR!
ISN'T THAT RIGHT?
HUH...?
HM-HMM...
...YOU COULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT THAT ABSURD SUGGESTION YOU JUST MADE WOULD ACTUALLY WORK!
NO MATTER HOW MUCH OF A LUNATIC YOU ARE...
...TO MAKE PAYING WITH BLOOD AT THE END SEEM MINOR IN COMPARISON, RIGHT?
...YOU GAVE ME THAT RIDICULOUS CONDITION...
...S A WEDGE TO PREVENT ME FROM RUNNING AWAY THROUGH THE FINAL HANCH...
IN OTHER WORDS...

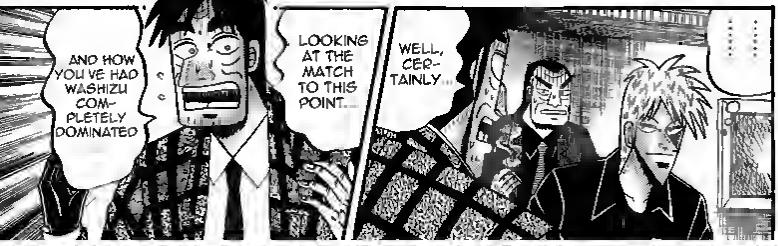
HMPH!!
ざわ…
HMM-HMM...
チャラ
WELL, YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY...
チャ!!…
...I WASN'T PLANNING ON PAYING WITH MONEY, TO BEGIN WITH

AFTER ALL, YOU DON'T NEED TO WORRY ABOUT OUTRANKING ME...
I'LL STOP THAT FROM HAPPENING. NO DOUBT ABOUT IT.
I'LL CONTAIN YOU COMPLETELY...
...STOP THE LUNATIC FROM MOVING A MUSCLE!


CHAPTER 142 - ATTRIBUTE

IS THAT REALLY OKAY...?
SAYING SOMETHING LIKE THAT!


AKAGI!!
GRGH...!


AND HOW YOU'VE HAD WASHIZU COMPLETELY DOMINATED
LOOKING AT THE MATCH TO THIS POINT...
WELL, CERTAINLY...
.....

WE SHOULDN'T JUST LET AN ADVANTAGE LIKE...
OH, QUIT WORRYING!

BUT EVEN SO...
I CAN'T IMAGINE THAT WOULD EVEN COME UP!

AND ON TOP OF THAT...
AKAGI'S ABILITY IS REALLY SOMETHING ELSE!

THIS IS REALLY JUST A FORMALITY!
OHS!..?!

CERTAINLY NOT ABOUT WHAT PLACE AKAGI WILL END UP IN!
SO THERE'S NO NEED TO WORRY!

...WITH A TREMENDOUS WAVE OF MOMENTUM ON OUR SIDE!
...WE'VE JUST COME OUT OF THE 5TH HAN-CHAN...

No...!
...Akagi was in danger!
In this, the 6th and final session...
In truth, it was exactly the opposite!
.....
Akagi felt...
...that he was in danger beyond even his comprehension!

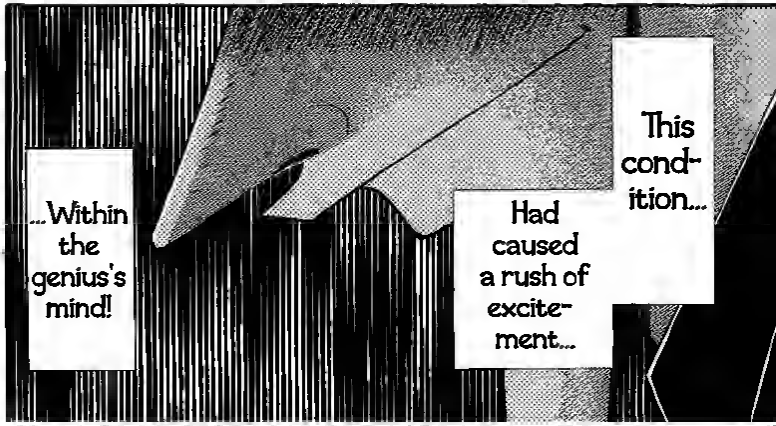
What Ohgi said was incorrect!
So that was wrong!
...He thought it was certainly a possibility!
And for that reason ...
...a sort of thickness hanging in the air!
Akagi felt a turbulent, uneasy atmosphere...

IT WAS VERY MUCH POSSIBLE FOR WASHIZU TO OUTRANK HIM!
...Which was certainly dangerous enough by itself...
...That is, the bonus payments of blood after direct hits...
In addition to the usual concern...
Therefore...
...He would also need to worry about losing blood by being outranked!

...Agreeing to put himself in more danger...
And so, paying for the adjustment with blood...
Logically should never have crossed his mind!
...Akagi had already stated that he was going to agree!
And yet...

The exact opposite!
THA-NKS
...Would have rejected this offer on the spot!
An ordinary man...
...However Akagi liked to do battle!
...there would be no way of telling what might happen.
...And while a normal man might try and talk his way out of it...
For this was a genius who had an affinity for Gamm-bling...
Espe-cially in Akagi's situa-tion...
HM-HMM-HMM...

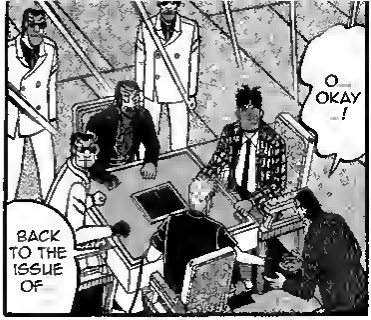
...This fateful condition!
...Akagi would readily accept...

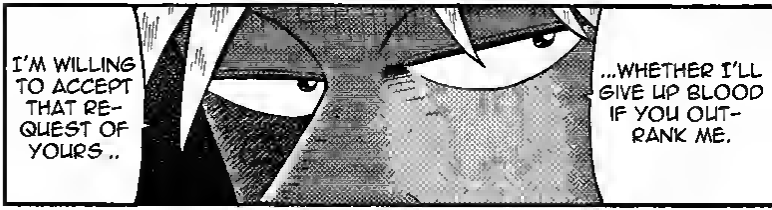

...Within the genius's mind!
Had caused a rush of excitement...
This condition...

Washizu had been revived!
Because, in truth...
This unabashed proposal aiming to let him get what he truly wanted...
His unseemly demand that, should there be a false Ron or false Tsumo made, the game to that point would be erased...
It was certain...
...something beyond comprehension that could be awakened within Washizu at any moment!
The 6th Session would be chaos...
For at this moment, there was something...
...was indication that he had regained his mental composure!

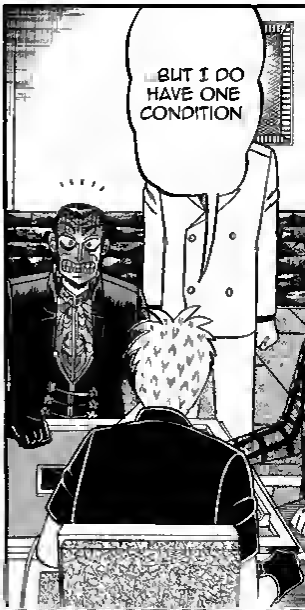
Akagi would be in peril!
...Akagi desired to jump in...!
For this very reason...
And yet...
He wanted to experience that hellfire!!

ギュッ…
HM-
HMM...


BACK TO THE ISSUE OF...
O...OKAY!


I'M WILLING TO ACCEPT THAT REQUEST OF YOURS..
...WHETHER I'LL GIVE UP BLOOD IF YOU OUTRANK ME.

HM-HMM-HMM...
HUH...?


...BUT I DO HAVE ONE CONDITION

YOU GOT LIGHT UP A GOOD POINT.
I GET WHAT YOU MEANT...
.....

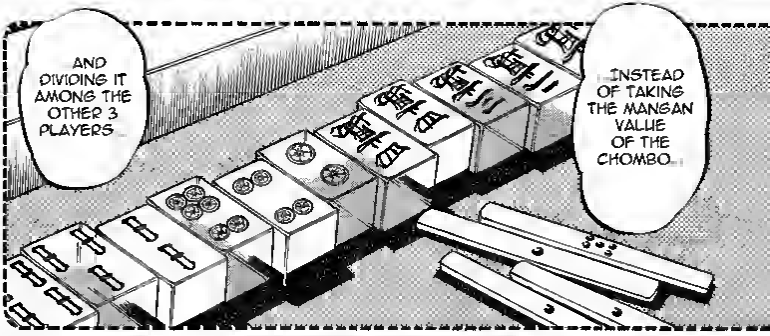
...JUST A LITTLE BIT AGO.
IT'S ABOUT WHAT YOU SAID...

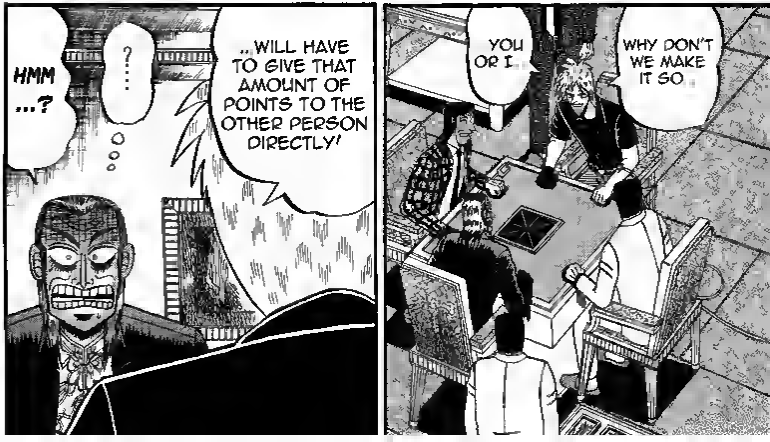
IF NOT...
...IS SOMETHING WE NEED TO TAKE CARE OF, NOW!
...TO END THE ROUND PREMATURELY...
CERTAINLY, USING A FALSE RON OR FALSE TSUMO...
WE COULD JUST THROW AROUND FALSE RONS AND FALSE TSUMOS ALL OVER THE PLACE TO END IT!
IF WE EVER HAD THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF UNREST IN A ROUND...
JUST AS YOU SAID BEFORE...
SO THAT'S WHY...
...WOULD BE ENOUGH TO GET ONE OF US TO BLOW THEIR LID AT THE UNFAIRNESS!
THAT KIND OF THING...
THAT'S NOT THE KIND OF WAR I WANT TO WAGE!
THAT WOULD BE THE WORST!

NOR-MALLY...
A PEN-ALTY...?
AN EXTRA PENALTY, TO STOP THAT FROM HAPP-ENING
I'D LIKE TO MAKE ONE LITTLE PROPO-SITION...
HOW ABOUT THAT?
CHOM-BOS HAVE THE POINT VALUE OF A MANGAN
IF WE KEPT THAT AS-IS...
THE AMOUNT OF POINTS YOU'D NORMALLY GET FOR COMPLETING A MANGAN IS WHAT YOU GIVE UP AND DIVIDE AMONG THE OTHER 3 PLAYERS... THAT'S 12,000 IF YOU'RE THE DEALER, AND 8,000 IF NOT
YOU COULD DO THAT VERY EASILY AND COMFORT-ABLY...
...AND THAT'S BE-CAUSE
...AND EFFEC-TIVELY START THE ROUND OVER!
IF YOU WERE EVER CAUGHT IN A DAN-GEROUS SITUA-TION...
...YOU COULD HAVE SUZUKI HERE CALL A FALSE TSUMO...
...IF YOU TRIED TO DO IT...

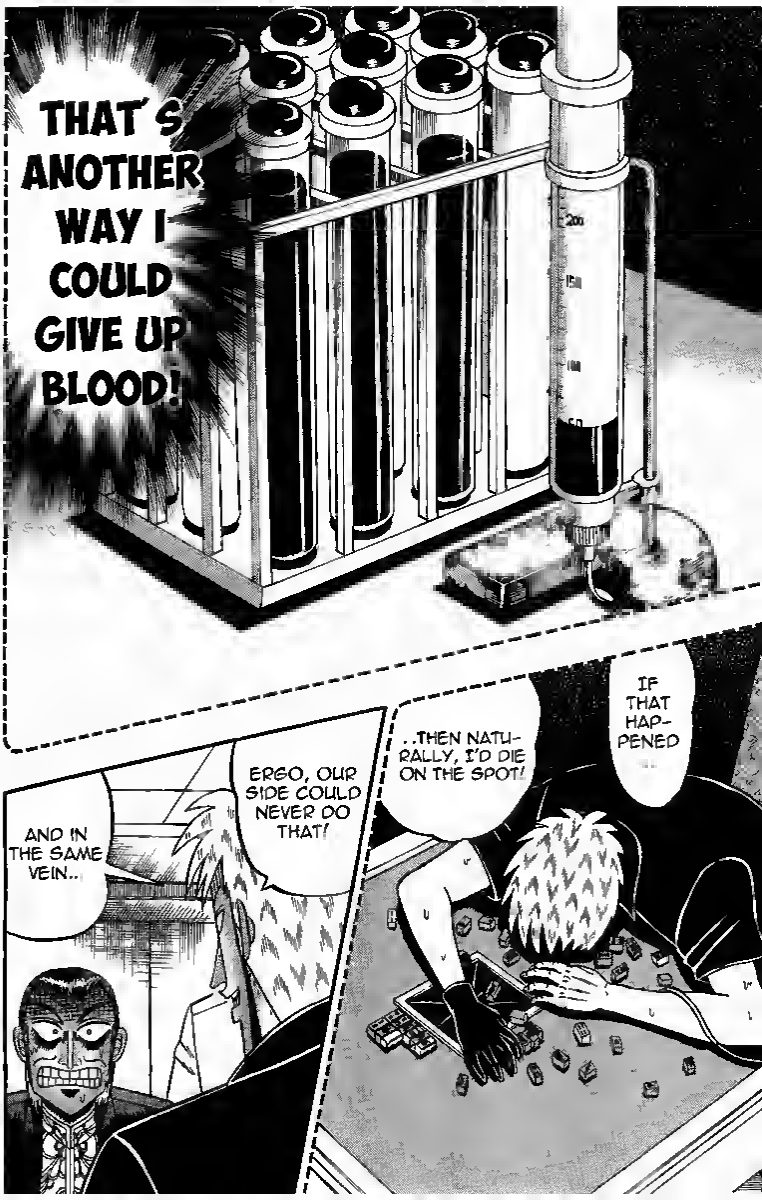
...YOU WOULD NOT SUFFER ANY KIND OF PENALTY FROM THE BONUS PAYMENTS!
AND ON TOP OF BEING ABLE TO SAVE YOUR POINTS...
YES, I KNOW IT...
...YOU WOULD NOT BE GIVING UP ANY OF YOUR POINTS TO ME!
IF YOU DID THAT...
THANKS TO THAT UNDER-HANDED STRAT-EGY!
WOULD NEVER COME TO BE!
A POINT WHERE YOU COULD LOSE THE REST OF WHAT YOU HAVE
WITH THAT...
HM-HMM-HMM...
IT'S NOT JUST MY SIDE..!
KGH...!
JUST AS YOU WERE SAYING!
THAT'S RIGHT.

THE SAME GOES FOR MY SIDE...
...WE COULD DO THAT, TOO
KGH ...!
HM-HMM-HMM...
SO THAT'S WHY...


INSTEAD OF TAKING THE MANGAN VALUE OF THE CHOMBO...
AND DIVIDING IT AMONG THE OTHER 3 PLAYERS...


WHY DON'T WE MAKE IT SO...
YOU OR I...
...WILL HAVE TO GIVE THAT AMOUNT OF POINTS TO THE OTHER PERSON DIRECTLY!
?...
HMM ...?

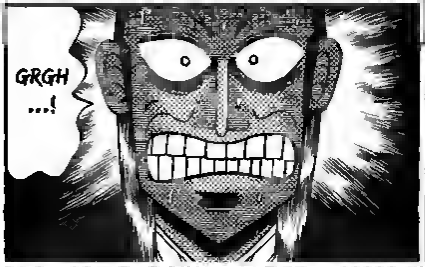
IF YASUOKA OR I DO IT...
...THAT IS, IF THERE'S A FALSE RON OR FALSE TSUMO FROM OUR SIDE...
IN OTHER WORDS...
THAT PAYMENT...
...WILL BE THE SAME THING AS IF I'D DEALT INTO YOUR HAND AND GIVEN YOU A DIRECT HIT.
...DIRECTLY TO YOU, MY OPPONENT!
...THEN I WILL HAVE TO PAY THE MANGAN VALUE OF THE CHOMBO PENALTY...
AND THUS...
BECAUSE I'D HAVE GIVEN YOU A 8000-POINT DIRECT HIT, I WOULD HAVE TO GIVE UP...
...800 CCS!
...IS THAT YOU HAVE TO PAY WITH EITHER BLOOD OR MONEY TO MAKE UP FOR IT.
THE RULE FOR BONUS PAYMENTS...


THAT'S ANOTHER WAY I COULD GIVE UP BLOOD!
IF THAT HAP-PENED ...
..THEN NATU-RALLY, I'D DIE ON THE SPOT!
ERGO, OUR SIDE COULD NEVER DO THAT!
AND IN THE SAME VEIN..

IT'S VERY SIMPLE
WITH THIS
SO HOW ABOUT IT?
TO MAKE YOUR REMAI-NING FUNDS VANISH!
THAT WOULD BE EN-OUGH
...TO ENSURE THAT THERE ARE NO FALSE RONS OR FALSE TSUMOS!
IT'LL BE THROWN OUT THE WINDOW!
JUST LIKE YOU SAID A BIT AGO...
...THAT TACTIC WOULD SPOIL THE TENSION OF THIS FINAL ROUND...
HM-HMM-HMM...

BUT BY JUST LOOKING AT THE CHOMBO PENALTY A DIFFERENT WAY...
...WE CAN MAKE IT INFEASIBLE TO TRY THAT!

RIGHT..?


GRGH ...!

WASH-IZU-SAMA...
RGG-GHH ...!!
WELL...
.....
IT SHOULD SUFFICE!
THAT IS FINE ...
I SUP-POSE YOU'RE RIGHT...
SO, THEN...
HM-HMM-HMM...

WITH ALL THE NEW RULES WE JUST DISCUSSED ADDED...
LET'S GET THE FINAL SESSION UNDERWAY!
SO SHALL WE BEGIN...
...THE 6TH HANCHAN SESSION?
YES!
THAT FINE?

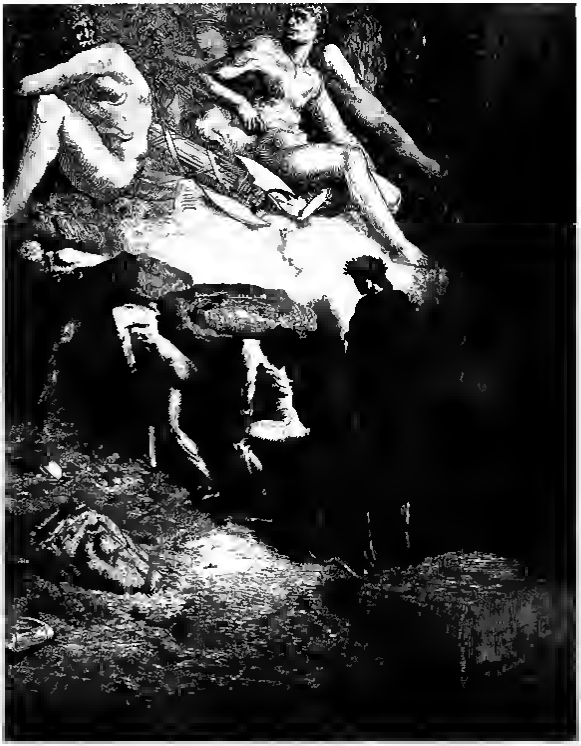
LET'S DECIDE THE FIRST DEALER!
ALL RIGHT ... SO FIRST ...
チャリ・・・
コロ・・・コロ・・・
AHH...!!
トッ・・・

GRGH ...!
OKAY!
The first Dealer is Akagi!
In this, the final Session..
For better or worse, the final Hanchan has been set in motion!
It begins!

...Following the momentum he picked up from the 5th Session...
And the first dealer...
...is Akagi!
AKAGI 16 - FIN

TRANSLATED BY SONICKRAZY,
CLEANED BY DEAKACHU,
TYPESETTING BY SMOKEY

HTTP://FKMTKRAZY.BLOGSPOT.COM



アカギ
悪魔の戦術
第1巻 異端の麻雀戦術書
第2巻 禁断の麻雀戦術書
第3巻 暗黒の麻雀戦術書
絶賛発売中!!

狂気の沙汰ほど面白い!!

アカギの麻雀戦術を学ぶ!!

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知力、体力、精神力を総動員して闘う!!

福本麻雀劇画の金字塔

福本伸行

絶賛発売中！

敵の裏の裏まで読み、さらに読む。
が繰り広げられる。卑劣ではなく
千思万考の果ての究極の選択。

天

逆転発想の秘術

転換法、自由自在!!

常識やセオリー、経験則、確率……そういった誰もが信じる汎用的な発想では所詮2割5分の勝率だ。ワンランク上を目指すなら発想そのものを変革していかねばならない。もちろん麻雀にかぎったことではない。勝負すべきときには必ず必要になる発想転換の術。福本作品の代表作のひとつ、「天」から学ぶ逆転発想の秘術!!

【著】
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本文から

「オレたちはまず ヤマを返す…」

東のメンバーになるために、天からテストを与えられたひろゆきだったがクリアできなかった。そのテストとは、2分以内に4人分の配牌を見て、どれか一つ選んで八巡以内に和了ることだった。2分という限られた時間で、配牌の比較、展開の推理をしていたひろゆきに対し、天は「まぬけ！オレだったら全てのヤマを開け記憶していただろう…」と言い放つ。心を折られたひろゆきには反論の余地はなかった…。

●解析

ここで天が言いたかったのは、イカサマをしろということではない。発想を柔軟にしろ、つまり「理」に縛られるな!!ということなのである。ルールの枠内では高い能力を発揮する優等生のひろゆきだが、枠を乗り越えようという力強い発想は出てこなかったのだ…。

『天』に学ぶ発想の

絶賛発売中！

【原著】

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食い下がったスは死にメンツ！

竹書房

近代麻雀コミックス
アカギ⑯

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定価はカバーに表示してあります。
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TRANSLATED BY SONICKRAZY
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